

HOUSE RESOLUTION 20

By Bone

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Ruth Woodward Stone of Cannon County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Ruth Woodward Stone at the age of 91; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Stone, better known to most citizens of Cannon County as “Granny,” was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, the daughter of the late Tenilla Thurston Woodward and R.C. Woodward, Mrs. Stone was a longtime resident of Woodbury and a highly respected member of that community; and

WHEREAS, for more than twenty years Mrs. Stone served with acumen and alacrity as Supervisor of the Woodbury Central High School Lunch Room Program, in which position she earned the respect of her peers, superiors, and students alike for the exemplary quality and compassion of her work; and

WHEREAS, she acquired the nickname “Granny” in that lunchroom, after her grandson, Butch, often ran down the cafeteria hallways when his father returned on leave from various Army assignments, exclaiming, “Granny, Granny, I’m home,” to the delight of students, teachers, principals and superintendents, who also referred to her as “Granny”; and

WHEREAS, a nurturer of both body and spirit, Mrs. Stone loved feeding the children at school and enjoyed seeing people eat healthy and hardy meals; and

WHEREAS, a plaque in the Cannon County High School Cafeteria pays tribute to Granny’s many valuable contributions as a cook, supervisor, and role model; and

WHEREAS, she also cooked meals for the Woodbury Lions Club for more than twenty years, prepared meals regularly for the Bank of Commerce and the Cannon County Farm

Bureau, and, as of the year 2000, Granny had spent more than a quarter of a century preparing the beans for the Beans and Cornbread Day; and

WHEREAS, she was an active and devout member of the Woodbury Church of Christ, which she served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, she was also deeply devoted to her family and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Stone enjoyed the loving companionship of her husband, Hilton Stone, a career military man, who preceded her in death; together they were the proud parents of two sons; and

WHEREAS, in 1952, Mr. and Mrs. Stone moved to 310 Colonial Street in Woodbury, the very same address at which she passed away; and

WHEREAS, she is survived by her two sons and daughters-in-law, Retired Colonel James E. "Jimmy" and Frances Ray McBroom Stone and Charley F. "Chuck" and Judy Reed Stone; grandchildren, James E. "Butch" Stone, Jr. and his wife Greta Parsley Stone, Scott Stone and his wife, Jennifer, Chad Stone, Amy Reed, and Stephanie Thierbach and her husband, Lou; great-grandchildren, James Tyler Stone, Sean Stone, Tabitha Stone, Jacob Stone, Will Stone, and Reed Thierbach; two brothers, David and Tom Woodward; a sister, Katie; and caregivers, Joan West, Carol Lassiter, Kim Cook, and Jean Brown; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by brothers R.W. and Ted Woodward and sisters Mary and Charlene; and

WHEREAS, Ruth "Granny" Stone leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity, probity, and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and nurturing human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Ruth "Granny" Woodward Stone, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with dedication and selflessness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mrs. Stone.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.